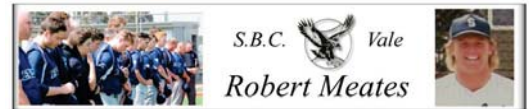


Eagles News Vol:15 Jan 21st 2020

Melbourne Baseball Diamond: David Hirst, Club umpire and coaches discussing the dire situation before pulling the pin on the days play.

HAIL THE THIRDS !

Dear Members, Families and Friends, welcome to our Eagles News Vol:15 for the summer season. We start with some sad news of a past player and member passing. Past player Robert Meates, who was an outstanding player (see page 3 following) and past member and player manager of the Fourths in the late 1980's being Ian (Boofa) Whitehead. Ian was a valued member who managed the Fourths team for many years and also assisted them with securing sponsorships to help cover their player fees. Condolences to both families from Sunshine Baseball Club and our members, our thoughts are with you all.



On field it was all happening for the Eagles. The conditions were tough for everyone and being the first game back meant dusting of the cobwebs and getting back into the swing of things.

SENIORS: After the opposition got the early runs, the **Firsts** kept their game plan in motion and eventually came away with a good win. The **Seconds** started of their return with a nice victory, followed by the **Thirds**, who only managed a half an hours play before it literally bucked down causing an instant flood. The **Fourth**s had a tough game and were lacking with their defensive play, although there was a very nice out to report being the 5 to 6 to 3 out. The **Women's** team also has a tough game in very warm conditions down at Geelong, but were able to keep it together long enough for a nice win. The **Masters** game was washed out, so the fellas have yet another week off to chill.

JUNIORS: For their return game, the **Junior Leaguer** had a very close one Friday night in their game against Newport and the **Intermediate** League had a run chase on their hands in their game Sunday morning. The Little League Minors return next Tuesday for training in preparation for their first game back on Jan 31st and the Tee Ball and Rookie players have their first session starting again on Feb 4th



NEW SPONSOR - The Granary Café

Sunshine Baseball Club is proud to announce our new sponsor The Granary Café: They will be donating a meal voucher for every Firsts home game player of the day (SUDSY) award. Drop in and visit them in a charming environment within the spectacular heritage listed Sunshine Harvester Centre and enjoy a fantastic breakfast, delicious lunch or a great dinner. The Granary Café is also a great place for a quick coffee or out of office meeting and snack.

PROUD SUNSHINE BASEBALL CLUB SPONSORS



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JET COURIERS



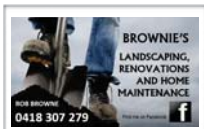
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If you are interested in sponsoring Sunshine Baseball Club, please contact Glenn on: 0421 970 767 / glennjmg@hotmail.com



EAGLES GAMES AND RESULTS



The Sudsy player of the day award went to Bryce Aldridge for his outstanding effort in the game against Melbourne at home. Congratulations Bryce, your award was certainly well deserved and a bonus was receiving the meal voucher from our newest sponsor The Granary Cafe in Devonshire Road Sunshine, enjoy !!!



NEW SPONSOR: A gem of a café in the heart of Sunshine!
Come in the early morning for some fruit toast and coffee, or if you're hungry, the big breakfast. Alternatively, take a well-deserved break from work and enjoy a relaxing lunch. Relish the diverse tasting menu and daily specials. You'll be treated to some of the best fresh food and friendly alternative service in Sunshine.

S.B.C. 1sts	ROUND 19 Sunday Jan 25th	Eagles vs Melbourne	VENUE AWAY 3.30pm	Surrey Park Box Hill	<i>COMMENT</i>	ROUND 18 RESULT Eagles: 7 Melbourne: 3
S.B.C. 2nds	ROUND 15 Sunday Jan 25th	Eagles vs Melbourne	VENUE AWAY 1.00pm	Surrey Park Box Hill	<i>COMMENT</i>	ROUND 14 RESULT Eagles: 4 Melbourne: 2
S.B.C. 3rds	ROUND 15 Sunday Jan 25th	Eagles vs Melbourne	VENUE HOME 3.30pm	Barclay Reserve	<i>COMMENT</i>	ROUND 14 RESULT Eagles: washout Melbourne: 0
S.B.C. 4ths	ROUND 15 Sunday Jan 25th	Eagles vs Melbourne	VENUE HOME 1.00pm	Barclay Reserve	<i>COMMENT</i>	ROUND 14 RESULT Eagles: 0 Melbourne: 11
S.B.C. WOMEN'S	ROUND 00 Saturday Jan 24th	NO GAME			<i>COMMENT</i>	ROUND 13 RESULT Eagles: 13 Geelong Blue : 10
S.B.C. MASTERS	ROUND 00 Saturday Mon 27th	NO GAME			<i>COMMENT</i>	ROUND 11 RESULT Eagles: washout Werribee: 0

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S.B.C. U18s State League EAGLES	ROUND 14 Sunday Jan 26th	Eagles vs Essendon	VENUE HOME 9.00am	Barclay Reserve	<i>COMMENT</i>	ROUND 13 RESULT Eagles: win Berwick: Forfeit
S.B.C. Junior League EAGLES	ROUND 14 Friday Jan 24th	Eagles vs Williamstown	VENUE HOME 6.00pm		<i>COMMENT</i>	ROUND 13 RESULT Eagles: 7 Newport Red: 8
S.B.C. Intermediate League EAGLES	ROUND 14 Sunday Jan 26th	Eagles vs Doncaster	VENUE AWAY 9.00am	Sinton's Reserve Park Orchids	<i>COMMENT</i>	ROUND 13 RESULT Eagles: 2 Waverley: 14

ORICA DEER PARK

This weeks Junior Games are Proudly Sponsored by Orica Deer Park

ORICA DEER PARK



EAGLES NOTICE BOARD

With the look of a Hawk a Sunshine bat continues climb

You would have bet your life it was Dermott Brereton out there with a baseball cap squeezed down over his eyebrows.

At lonely Barclay Park, Sunshine, where a never-ending stream of trains slowly rattle along the nearby tracks, a dozen or so baseballers are completing a complicated drill.

Surely it has to be Brereton, kicking up dust along the dirt path between home plate and first base.

It is not just the shock of blond hair bouncing out the back of the cap. Look at the powerful build, complete with barrel chest and huge arms.

It is little wonder that just about everyone at the Sunshine Baseball Club calls Rob Meates "Dermie" — the resemblance to the Hawthorn centre half-forward is uncanny. Even Meates himself acknowledges it.

But when it comes to personality, the powerful first baseman and home-run specialist says he and the flamboyant Hawthorn forward are poles apart.

Meates regards himself as more the quiet type and, despite his size and obvious strength, prefers to stay out of the rough stuff for which baseball has earned itself a reputation.

Last Sunday, when the Victorian Baseball Association semi-final between Sunshine and Waverley erupted into a brawl, it was significant that Meates stood back at first base for a while before stepping in between teammates and opposition to make sure things did not get too far out of hand.

"That situation was just ridiculous," he says. "Fighting for the sake of fighting does nothing for me, and what happened on Sunday was completely unnecessary."

"The only time you ever see baseball on television is when there is a brawl, and that is unfortunate because people come to expect that. I know there is a lot more to the sport, and that is why I am playing it."

Meates's best friend at the club, Neil Burke, needed stitches to the head after the brawl. "Had I seen the incident I might have got a bit more aggressive," Meates confesses. Waverley's David Teale received a four-week suspension for hitting

Harvey Silver



Burke and will miss the rest of the finals.

Meates plays baseball for the challenge of planting the narrow, rounded bat on to a speeding ball with such perfect timing that it soars over the home run fence.

He managed to do it against Waverley in a game that Sunshine lost 7-4, and a week earlier against Malvern he pounded a monster, clearing the left-field fence and landing the ball in the creek alongside the South-Eastern Freeway.

This is only his second season back after almost five years out of the sport with a shoulder injury. Meates's success this year has made many wonder just how good he would have been had he played right through.

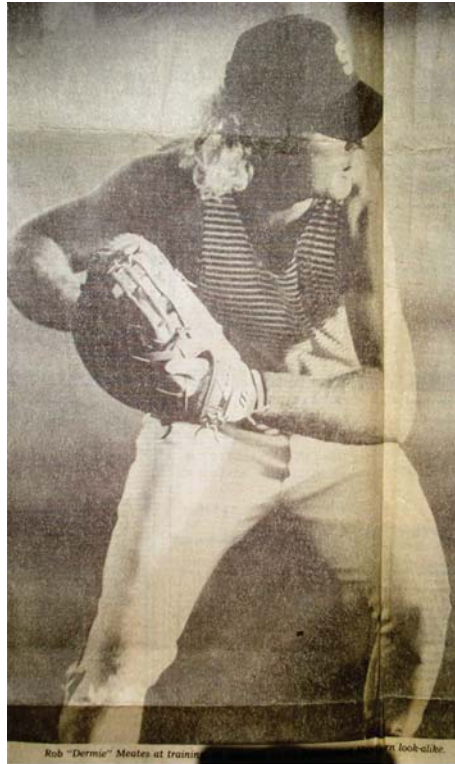
At 19 Meates, then a catcher, represented his state and country and was recognised as one of Australia's great prospects in a sport in which players normally reach their peak at a late age.

"In America, most players don't play major league baseball until they are in their 30s," says the 29-year-old. "I think I am hitting better than ever — I don't panic as much at the plate as I did when I was a youngster."

The good form gained Meates a place in the Victorian Claxton Shield team for the recent carnival in New South Wales, and with 20 hits from 47 times at bat for a batting average of 0.426 and a grand display at first base, he was included in the carnival all-star team.

Now Meates knows that a place in the Australian side for this year's Asian series in Japan is a possibility. After a nine-year break since he last reached those dizzy heights, he is feeling a little like a rookie who is in there waiting for a chance at his first national cap.

● Sunshine takes on Malvern in an elimination semi-final on Saturday and Waverley and Essendon play for a place in the VBA grand final on Sunday. Both games will be at Kooyong Park, Malvern.



Rob "Dermie" Meates at training

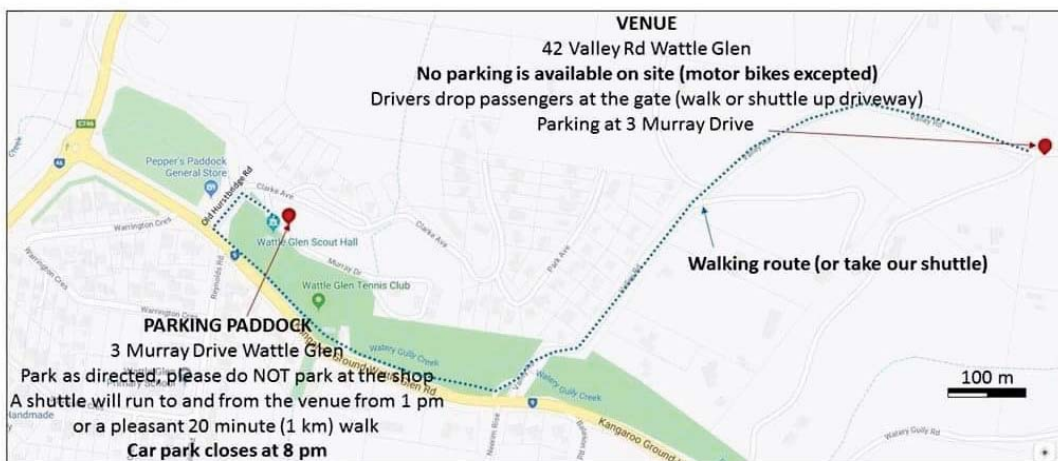
SBC VALE ~ ROBERT MEATES

Sunshine Baseball Club and it's members wish to pass on their sincere condolences to the family and friends of the Robert Meates, who sadly passed away after battling an illness. Robert played at Sunshine for three years in the late 1980's, winning the Edward King Cup for best player in his second year and was runner up the next season. Whilst at Sunshine ,he represented Victoria in the Claxton Shield and the Melbourne Monarchs in the National League. He had previously represented Victoria and Australia whilst playing for Melbourne. Robert was highly respected and admired by all team mates and opposition players, he was truly one of the Great Guys. He will always be remembered as a wonderful person and a great human being. **RIP a true Champion in every respect.** On the left is an article and photo from the local Sunshine newspaper in the late 1980's.



Memorial for Robert Meates (20/08/1959 to 15/01/2020)

- A memorial and celebration of life will be held at 2 pm (arrivals welcome from 1 pm) on Friday 24th January 2020.
- Refreshments will follow a brief service at Rob's renowned shed .
- Please note – there is no parking on site (except for motor bikes). Directions for parking are below.
- Drivers may drop passengers at the gate where they can walk or get a lift up the driveway. Car pooling is strongly encouraged.
- Wear comfortable shoes, bring an umbrella (just in case) and sun hat (though there is plenty of shade).
- Any queries please ring 0408 596 597





EAGLES GALLERY



A minutes silence for Robert Meates at Barclay Reserve Sunshine



A minutes silence for Robert Meates at Surrey Park Melbourne



Pic of the day from Lee Dare